

It's About YOUTH

Newsletter of the Utah State Youth Council on Workforce Services • October 2006



High School Seniors Flunk Financial Exam

High school seniors are financially illiterate, according to a national survey released by the Federal Reserve. More than 4,000 students correctly answered only half of 31 test questions about finances and economics. That showing was even worse than the 52 percent correct answers posted by students in 2000, and the 57 percent showing in 1997.

Former Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan says students need a stronger foundation in math to help them understand personal economics so they can avoid making poor financial decisions in the future.

"Teaching personal finance is like teaching students how to use computers, in both cases they learn

by doing and in both cases, the subject has immediate relevance to their lives," says Lewis Mandell, professor of finance managerial economics at the University of Buffalo School of Management. Mandell conducted the surveys for the Jump\$tart Coalition for Personal Financial Literacy.

In response to the survey, former U.S. Treasury Secretary Paul O'Neill said his office would create an office of financial education to develop programs in personal finance for the nation's schools.

•69 percent believed they would suffer no consequence if their credit cards were stolen. (Liability is limited to \$50 after the card issuer is notified).

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Chair's Message

Summer is fading fast and it is time to look forward to the fall and the opportunities and goals that await each of us. Before we do that it seems appropriate to celebrate the end of summer by dedicating this edition of the newsletter to individual youth who have accomplished great goals and have been outstanding in what they do.

So my hat's off to you all; congratulations on your accomplishments!

Marie Christman

SPECIAL ISSUE: OUTSTANDING YOUTH

Outstanding Youth

WESTERN REGION

Sara was a 16-year-old single parent residing with her 18-year-old sister and 13-year-old brother. Their father and mother were incarcerated at this time. Sara was not attending high school, and was unsure of a long-term goal, although completing high school was her short-term goal.

Sara re-enrolled in high school and got a job in order to gain additional income. DWS provided childcare supportive services to support her high school and employment activities. She tried to receive counseling services but couldn't do so because the consent of one of her parents was required.

Sara graduated with her class in 2005, attending over 100 hours of school while pregnant with her second child who was born shortly after high school graduation.

Sara was married in the fall of 2005. Her husband has been employed

for approximately one year at Great Lakes Cheese, Inc. in Fillmore. In May 2006, Sara gained employment at Subway. Shortly thereafter, Great Lakes Cheese offered her a full-time position with benefits. Sara accepted, and is now employed as a line attendant. As a result, Sara has not had to rely on public services. The latest exciting news for Sara is that she and her husband Jimmy have purchased a new vehicle and home.

Sara has worked diligently to assist her two younger siblings in completing high school. She is a productive member of society, even given the multitude of barriers that she faced. Although her employment counseling case and her supportive service case are closed, Sara contacts her employment counselor monthly to discuss her situation. The services that Sara received through the WIA Youth program were vital to her success. Sara has been an exceptional participant in the WIA Youth program and has accomplished great things.

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Roxann is the oldest of five children in a single parent household. She, her mother, and her siblings are living with her grandparents. Her divorced parents had never gone further in school than 9th grade. Roxann's mother had a new baby and it was her job to do most of the babysitting even though her mother didn't work. She didn't have a driver's license and had to rely on her mother, grandmother, or boyfriend for a ride everywhere. It was hard to get her schedule to work with everyone else's especially since she was looking for work and still attending high school.

Roxann was enrolled in WIA Youth after her freshman year in high school. She had been a resource student and had struggled, but by her senior year, all of her curriculum was mainstream.

These classes were hard for her since she had been used to the slower pace of resource classes, but with the help of her employment counselor and youth worker, and with the encouragement of her grandmother, she was able to pass her classes while working two jobs. Roxann's employers loved her and were glad to have her on their team. They said she is reliable, dependable, and a dedicated employee. Roxann graduated from high school in May 2006. It was a great accomplishment.

Roxann loves everything about animals and wanted a career working

with them. She came up with the idea of doing this year's Leadership Project at Best Friends Sanctuary and took an active roll in planning, organizing and working on the project. Later while taking cooking classes in school she discovered that cooking was her real love and she is now looking forward to getting trained in culinary arts. She still needs to get her driver's license but is working with a youth worker on preparing for the test.



Roxann

Neylda graduated from high school early, and started the Pharmacy Technician program at Dixie Applied Technology College when she was 17 years old. She also worked at Hogi Yogi and Best Western Travel Inn while attending classes.

She was a great student, and an example to other students as she worked through her training program. She began attending summer semester at Dixie State College while continuing to complete the externship portion of her course.

Neylda passed all of her tests for her pharmacy technician license, and is currently employed in her chosen



Neylda

SPECIAL ISSUE: OUTSTANDING YOUTH

Neylda cont.

field by working at Smith's Pharmacy 20 hours a week. She continues to attend Dixie State College as she works towards her goal of becoming a pharmacist.

Neylda said that the best part of her program was the hands-on experience she received while working in the externship portion of the program. She loves her job!

Cari H. is a single mother of two children who lives with her parents and who tends her sister's children as well. She is a bright and confident young woman that realizes she needs a career in order to live on her own and to support her children.



Cari and her children.

Cari attended every class though it required her to leave her children with a babysitter and return home quite late in the evening. She completed the course

a couple of weeks ago and is now looking for a job. Efforts are being made to find an internship or on-the-job training where she can work in a law office and get some good experience. Cari has already shown that she has great interview skills, and once she gains a little experience, many doors will be opened for her.

EASTERN REGION

Kayce T, who left school in the ninth grade, was enrolled in the WIA Youth Program in March of 2005 at age 17. She had no diploma or GED, no occupational skills, and was basic skills deficient. Her mom had several health issues and her dad lost his business due to these health issues upon moving to Carbon County. While she was enrolled in the WIA Youth Program, she made contact with the area Job Corps. Kayce enrolled in Job Corps, obtained her GED, and gained occupational skills in the Business Technology field. She is in the "exit" phase of Job Corps, having graduated in July 2006. She is now considering additional opportunities such as possible employment in the business technology field or possible enlistment in the U.S. Navy or the U.S. Air Force.

Cheyenne S. was enrolled in the WIA Youth Program in December 2004 when she was an 18-year-old high school senior.

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She was credit deficient towards graduating and receiving a diploma. She didn't have a place to call home and was living home to home, staying with friends.

Cheyenne had no medical coverage and needed dental work done on her teeth. Working with her WIA youth caseworker and medical representatives she was able to receive financial assistance and medical coverage while she was enrolled in and attending school. She was able to take online classes from BYU, obtain the credits required to graduate from high school, and receive her diploma in May 2005. She has since gotten her own home through assistance from the Family Services Center / Children's Justice Center, Housing Authority and WIA Youth Program, and has become employed full time.

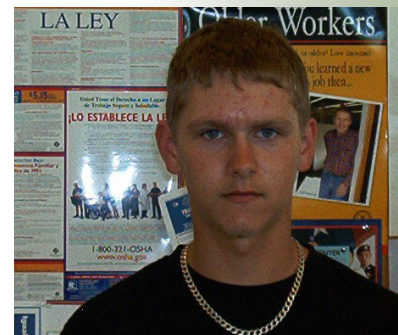
Jimmie B. was enrolled in the WIA Youth Program in February of 2005 when she was 15 years old. She was not performing well in her classes and was not on track for



Jimmie Sue

graduation. Since becoming active in the WIA Youth Program, she increased her school credits and is on track to graduate. She is attending Carbon High School as a junior this year and has obtained her driver's license with assistance from the WIA Youth Program. Jimmie successfully completed the Summer Youth Employment Opportunity (SYEO) in the summer of 2005 to obtain some occupational and job readiness skills and has since obtained part-time employment on her own.

Michael M, a shy 15-year-old, enrolled in the WIA Youth Program in August of 2005. He was doing well in school and had good grades at the time of his enrollment, though he had many barriers: lack of occupational skills, abuse, and a history of family illiteracy.



Michael M.

With assistance from the WIA Youth Program he was able to attend the National Youth Leaders State Conference in Seattle, Washington, in February of 2006. While in Seattle, he received training for leadership, assessment skills, teamwork building skills, goal setting, interpersonal communication, and self-awareness skills. With WIA Youth Program assistance, Michael obtained his driver's license and is successfully participating in a paid internship at

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Sutherland's to obtain occupational and job readiness skills. His supervisor at Sutherland's is very pleased with Michael and his attitude towards work, and has already commented on the possibility of offering him a part time position after his internship is completed. Michael continues to maintain his outstanding grades in school and is attending Carbon High School at the present time.

MOUNTAINLAND REGION



Mariana C.

Mariana C. came into our offices in April of 2006. She was attending a young parent's high school in order to get her diploma and have childcare for her daughter. Mariana was not working since she wanted to focus on getting her diploma. She received it while on the WIA Youth program in May of 2006.

Mariana displayed a great desire to work as a surgical technician but she lacked the occupational skills and training to do so. She started out by setting a goal to bring her math skills level up. Mariana had excellent reading skills (she was at a post high school level) but her math skills were at an 8th grade level. To help the situation, Mariana attended tutoring for two hours a week. She then retook the Adult Basic Learning Examination (ABLE) and improved her math scores enough to enroll in a surgical technician program. After researching different surgical

technician programs in the area, Mariana decided to attend Ameritech in Provo. She took the initiative to apply to their program and received a scholarship for part of her tuition costs. She also applied for federal student aid, took out a small loan, and was awarded a grant. WIA agreed to pay for the rest of her program costs so that she could pursue her goal.

Mariana is actively participating in the surgical tech program today. She receives help with childcare through WIA while she is in school full-time. She said she has always been interested in surgery and has a future dream of working side by side with a surgeon. She has demonstrated the responsibility, dedication, and vision that it takes to achieve personal goals and be a contributing member of society.

Stephen P. came to the WIA offices with a strong desire to complete the EMT program at Utah Valley State College. He was volunteering with Provo City Youth and spent considerable time as a Youth Fire Chief, which ignited his desire to become an EMT. When Stephen enrolled in WIA he was not yet employed and was attending high school. In February of 2006, Stephen began his enrollment by taking a formal assessment at the Mountainland Applied Technology College.

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Stephen P.

Stephen's testing results indicated he was on track and wouldn't need help gaining basic skills. Stephen graduated in May of 2006 as his class' Salutatorian, a title he earned because he was ranked second in regards to his GPA and Citizenship. He also earned a \$500 scholarship \$500 from Community Credit Union. Stephen missed an overall GPA of 4.0 by earning one A- during his high school career.

After learning how to job search using the DWS web site, Stephen found, applied for, and obtained a job with Sizzler in Provo. He started out working as a host and was rapidly promoted to a server because of his excellent work ethic. He recently applied for and is currently interviewing for a position with Provo City where he'd like to work as a 911 dispatcher.

Soon after graduation Stephen applied for and was accepted at Utah Valley State College. He began classes in August and is busy working towards his dream of becoming an EMT.

Stephen is an exceptional youth that is driven to get the most out of life. Not only has he gained self-confidence through his recent accomplishments but also he has learned that he can succeed in whatever goal he sets his mind to. There is no doubt that Stephen will continue in excellence throughout his life and will continue to give back to the community he lives in.

NORTHERN REGION

Bear River

Brittany S. came into the WIA youth program several months ago. She is an older youth who had discontinued high school and who had no work history. In addition, she had several disabilities. Today Brittany is well on her way to completing her GED and she is attending the local Applied Technology College (ATC) in a work readiness program.

Her basic skills in computers, resumes, problem solving and teamwork are improving daily. Brittany has also completed a local Food Sense and Nutrition class, which has helped her know more about menu planning, budgeting, nutrition, and the food pyramid. Extending the confidence she is now gaining, Brittany looks forward to becoming involved in graphic arts one day.

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Letarik B. is a 19-year-old mother who moved from Ethiopia to Utah with her family early in 2005. When she came to the WIA she had no work history, spoke very little English, and had not completed high school or received a GED.

Letarik has worked with Sarah Smith in the FEP program, and then was introduced to the youth program where she worked with Brent Welsh and Heidi Lemon. She also began using the English Language Center and as a consequence her English skills have really grown. She will begin Level 3 at the center this month. Comments from her last evaluation read, "Letarik is working hard. She attends class regularly and always participates. Her confidence in English is improving greatly and she is becoming more fluent."

One day a comment was made to Brent how much taller Letarik looked. He responded that it is because Letarik is holding her head higher! How right he is!

Two weeks ago, after difficulty with other prospective worksites, Letarik was placed on a paid Youth Internship with the Child and Family Support Center. Letarik was interviewed, and though she was scared, she did her best with her English skills and was ecstatic when she was told they would love to have her there! She has now been there for weeks; she helps play with the children in the crisis nursery. She also does janitorial work and other projects to help the Center. The Center reports that she is working out wonderfully well for them, and that she accomplishes everything nearly

perfectly and in half the time. They were also greatly impressed that she had her background check, finger printing, and TB test done before she began her first day of work. Letarik frequently mentions how "nice" it is to have her job at the Center.

Beth R. was enrolled in the WIA youth program in January of 2006. Beth was a foster child and struggled somewhat with her high school



Beth R.

classes, but she was very determined to graduate. She participated in the leadership development project by helping with the planning and sponsorship responsibilities.

Beth was successful in completing high school; she earned her diploma in June of 2006. While attending school she worked in the theatre department helping with lighting and stage management during productions. She also completed the summer youth employment opportunity and learned many different skills.

Beth applied for and was accepted to Western Wyoming Community College. She is working towards getting her degree in Technical Theatre. She is also working on her first position with the theatre department at school as an Assistant Stage Manager. Beth has made huge accomplishments and continues to work towards her educational, occupational, and personal goals.

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A youth's perspective...

How Job Corps Changed My Life

By Rachel Ball

We all have choices to make in life. Each of those choices leads us along a path that reflects who we are and who we will become. Our past certainly is a part of who we are, and before I came to Job Corps, I was stuck. I had dreams and goals I wanted to accomplish, but I had no idea how to accomplish them. I can remember sitting around, wishing for something more, but never taking action to make that happen. I was tired of being a dreamer. I wanted to be an achiever.

Being an achiever was easier said than done. I had lots of talks with my mother and grandmother. It was them who helped me make the decision to come to Job Corps. I shared with my mother and grandmother how I felt about myself, and how I had messed up my life beyond repair. At twenty-one years old, I didn't feel Job Corps could help me, but I took my mother and grandmother's advice and signed up. From that point on, I didn't have time to think whether or not I'd made the right choice.

I have to admit my attitude was really negative when I arrived at the center. I focused mostly on the things that were bad in my life. So, I called my friends everyday. They would always talk about how much freedom they had and the fun they were having. Three months passed and it was time for summer break. When I returned home, I made up my mind; I wasn't

coming back to Job Corps.

Then I opened my eyes. My friends were doing the same exact things they were doing before I left — hanging out, making no improvements in their lives. I took a hard look at my life and at myself. As I look back, I can see I made the hardest decision I had ever made in my life up to that point. I decided to stop being a follower and become a leader. I returned to Job Corps, and this time I decided to really give it a chance.

I wanted to really do something worthwhile, so I got involved in Student Leadership. I became a mentor, which is one of the really important things I have accomplished at Job Corps. Helping new students realize their self worth has been so important to me. I think it's because I was helped to realize mine. I also chose to become an officer in my dorm. With all these responsibilities, I suddenly realized I wasn't a dreamer any longer. I was an achiever!

I have been at Job Corps a year and three months, and I have accomplished more in the time I have been at Job Corps than I have before. I am currently the CEO of the Student Leadership Council, and I am the president of my dorm as well. In August, I started college - an undertaking



continued

SPECIAL ISSUE: OUTSTANDING YOUTH

Rachel Ball cont.

that I would never have thought possible in the past. I think that the success I've enjoyed and the strides I've made in the time I've spent at Job Corps will help me to have a better life. My self-esteem is good. I know I am worth something, and I know I can make

a great life for myself. Someone once told me that it is easier to shut a door than open it. Before I came to Job Corps, I spent my time staring at the door, wishing it would open by itself. Job Corps has shown me how to open the door!

CENTRAL REGION



Jolin C.

Jolin C. was enrolled in the YES program in February of 2005. She was one of the younger youth in the program, economically disadvantaged, lacking in occupational and basic skills, and out of school. She knew she wanted to go to school, but was not sure what to study or how to pay for it. She immediately got involved in the YES program by attending every workshop and activity that we sponsored. She did some career exploration and decided on the Medical Assistant program at the Salt Lake/Tooele Applied Technology College.

Within one month of enrolling in our program not only was she attending school, but also she was actively involved in the YES leadership council (SI council). After two months of involvement in the leadership council, she was elected as the president of the council and has been actively

involved ever since. She never misses leadership meetings. We can always rely on Jolin to follow through with what she says she will do. Jolin was the key person that helped plan our recent Leadership/Citizenship project, sponsored by the Regional Youth Council, where we collected items and made quilts for the YWCA Women's Domestic Violence Shelter.

By attending the Summer Academic Enrichment program, Jolin was able to improve her basic skills in both math and reading. She came into the program at a 7.6 grade level for reading and 4.0 grade level for math. She took the ABLE test after completing the Academic Enrichment program and improved her scores to a 10th grade level for both reading and math.

She has completed hundreds of leadership hours and attained over a dozen younger youth goals.

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Within one year Jolin completed the Medical Assistant program. This included her Medical Assistant Externship at the Utah Cancer Specialist. She had 100% attendance (except for a couple of days when she went on vacation). Jolin is now employed at the Salt Lake Tooele Applied Technology College as an assistant teacher for the Medical Assistant program. She also took Radiology courses at SLCC during the summer 2006 term.

Jolin has never wavered in her aspiration to become a Medical Assistant and in her diligence on the leadership council. She consistently sets high goals and strives to achieve them.

Sonia G. isn't afraid to face a challenge. She knows that she has the strength and diligence to accomplish her goals. At twenty years old, she has learned that are obstacles in life, but diligence and hard work are the road to success.



Sonia G.

When Sonia enrolled in WIA Youth in August of 2005, she had many challenges to overcome. She had discontinued high school and was pregnant and single. She didn't have the basic skills necessary to earn a GED and she didn't

have a job. It could have seemed hopeless; instead, Sonia put her characteristic cheerful enthusiasm to work. She came to tutoring appointments three times a week and before long she raised her reading level from a 5.4 grade level to an 11.1 grade level. Her math

improved sharply too, from a 4.4 grade level to 7.2 grade level. By December of the same year she earned her GED, just a few weeks before giving birth to a healthy baby boy.

In the last months of her pregnancy Sonia had more than just educational goals in mind. She started a paid internship with the Community Resource and Development Department in the Salt Lake County Government. She was reliable, positive, and continually impressive. After having her baby, she returned to complete the internship. Her work-site supervisor gave her a glowing recommendation when she applied for an opening at the department. She was hired, of course, and now works in the office where she did her internship.

During that busy time, Sonia also worked hard to develop herself personally. She came to several workshops sponsored by YES, including "Creative Goal Setting" and an intensive multi-week "Parenting" workshop. Through her extensive participation she developed work readiness skills, communication skills, and leadership ability.

The YES Program Leadership Council members develop the skills of decision making and project management by planning and participating in volunteer opportunities, service events, workshops, and community activities. Sonia makes time in her busy schedule to be part of these activities. She even came with her new baby to quilt blankets that YES youth made and donated to the YWCA Domestic Violence Shelter. She recently volunteered to create and maintain the Leadership Council Scrapbook that documents the Council's pictures, newspaper articles, and community recognition.

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The YES program was recently featured in an article in the Deseret News. (Eli and Zak were two of our outstanding youth last year and shared their story on the youth panel.) Here is their story, as well as some of the other participants' stories.

Sonia is now on her way to earning an Associates Degree. She is attending Salt Lake Community College and is studying to be a medical lab technician. In her first class she earned an

A-. Everyone who has the opportunity to know her expects the very best from her efforts, and she has proven that they won't be disappointed.

Strength of the Human Spirit: YES helps youths overcome obstacles

*By Tammy Walquist and Mike Terry
Deseret Morning News*

Elijah Amodt can recall the scene vividly in his mind. He and his twin brother, Zackariah, were only four years old when a group of people with shotguns, wearing ski masks, burst into their house, taking everyone they loved away.

The boys learned that the masked men were members of the Drug Enforcement Agency who came to arrest their mother because she was an international drug dealer. To add to the trauma of the event, the boys also watched as every possession was ripped apart to check for additional drugs.

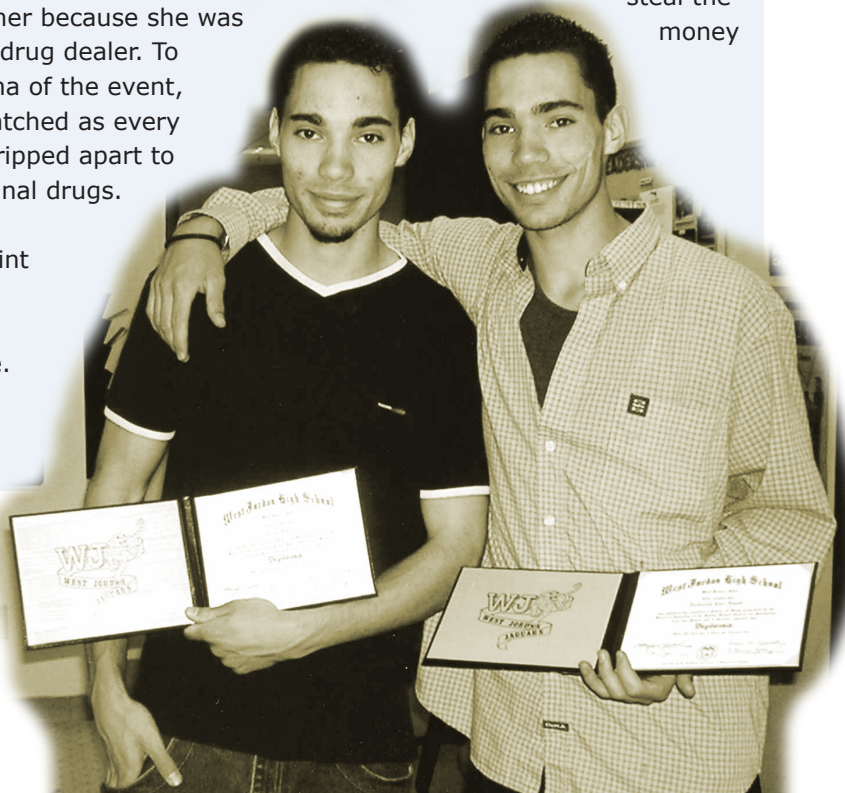
It was at this point that they were placed in their first foster home. However, the trouble for the

Amodt twins wasn't over.

After enduring about three months of what they call "hell itself" in their foster home, the boys were removed when Zak got tetanus from stepping on a rusty nail and had to be sent to the hospital to recover. Their father then took custody of the boys.

Zak says their father was a great friend but not a good parental figure. Both he and Eli spent the next 12 years coping with their father's drinking, stopping him from committing suicide, lying about their age to get jobs so they could provide for themselves, seeing their father

steal the money



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from their paychecks, and not living in any kind of stable environment.

They finally reached a point when they were tired of the chaos in their lives, so they decided to press charges against their father. A judge placed them in foster care for the second time, and their second foster care experience was different. Their caseworker worked to get them into a good foster home, and they spent the next two years with a family that did its best to make up for all the good experiences the boys missed out on growing up.

Because Zak and Eli were already 16 when they entered foster care the second time, they were quickly approaching the age when they would no longer be eligible for foster care, and they needed something to help them transition to adulthood.

The solution to their problem came in the form of a program designed to help youths such as themselves get an education and develop skills to help them get and keep a good job.

The Youth EmployAbility Services (YES) helps self-motivated young people, like the Amodts, who are struggling in school or having a difficult time finding and keeping a job to receive a high school diploma or GED and to improve vocational skills and abilities to compete in the job market.

Participants in YES set up an individualized education and employment plan, says Marianne Brough, YES coordinator. The plan can include anything from discovering grants and scholarships to help

with staying in school, such as learning study skills or tutoring, to life skills training such as time management, leadership development, conflict management, etc. Most plans take a year and a half to two years to complete.

Participants must meet eligibility requirements to enter the program – coming from a low-income family, being between 16 and 21 years old, facing significant barriers to success such as being a parent, having a language or cultural barrier or lacking life or work skills, living in Salt Lake or Tooele County and being a U.S. citizen or permanent resident alien.

Brough says many of the program's participants, like the Amodts, have had rough lives. "Typically we deal with kids from Department of Child and Family Services custody (from) abuse and neglect situations," she said. "We deal with an extremely low-income population. The federal standard for poverty is pretty severe. These kids are in need of help for education (and) youth life skills. When you have the background these kids have, you don't get opportunities to be personally powerful."

YES gives participants chances for paid and unpaid internships, job shadows, volunteer opportunities and workshops. More than 700 area youths currently participate in the program. Between 20 and 25 are involved in the leadership council, which teaches project management, teamwork, communication skills, volunteer work and community involvement.

continued

SPECIAL ISSUE: OUTSTANDING YOUTH

Strength of the Human Spirit cont.

Brough says no matter what concern participants may have, the program is designed to help them find a solution to it. "Typically when they bring us a sentence (about why they can't do something), either we can solve it or we know someone who can," she said. Rebecca Gonzales, 17, of Sandy said she got involved with the program because she had fallen behind in school. Her sister had been with it for three years, so she decided to try it out.

"I've learned not to be so shy. Coming to all the workshops had helped me see what I was missing out on," Gonzales said. "I'm confident in school...I'm now outspoken and more am confident when reading in front of groups, and I enjoy hearing from people around me."

Shasta, 18, said the program helped her get back on the right track after she spent time in jail. At first she came only because she had to, but now, 2 _ years later, her attendance is voluntary. She has learned many important things from the program, including self-motivation.

"If you want something done, you need to step up and do it yourself, because people aren't going to do it for you," she said. Shasta says she has also developed a network of contacts to help her if the need arises.

"Now I can reach out and find people I can talk to if I don't know exactly (where to go)," she said. "It's a lot of fun. I never thought I'd have this much fun sober."

Brough said youths between the ages of 14 and 18 have a difficult time because they don't feel they have power to change what's going on in their lives. YES helps empower youths and point them in the right direction.

Marianne Brough, YES coordinator, conducts leadership meeting. Brough says many YES participants have had rough lives.

"When you're 14, 16, 18, you don't have a lot of power and essentially you feel powerless," she said. "We say 'here are the avenues, pick one, and pick one of the ways to have your voice heard.' It's an opportunity to not feel so dejected and feel empowered and influential."

Zak and Eli agree that the program has helped them become aware of ways to improve the world around them.

"There's a lot of things we can do for the community and a lot of things we can help out with," Eli said. "It's a great outlet for us to give back as well as receive. The program gives us a lot of opportunities to grow, and I think it also gives opportunities to give back to the community. Coming from a lot of us with similar backgrounds, there are things in the community we can change."

Anyone interested in finding out more information about YES can contact Brough at 465-0135 or by email at mbrough@slco.org. Brough wants the community to be aware of the program and says

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Recognizing Outstanding Employers

SUTHERLAND'S: Wayne Clausen is Sutherland's store manager in Price. He agreed to and had six successful WIA Youth SYEO (Summer Youth Employment Opportunity) placements during the summer of 2005. He agreed to and has worked with the local WIA youth counselor for two paid internships for WIA youth in 2006 and two WIA youth SYEO placements for the summer of 2006. Wayne has also agreed to offer two to three possible placements for adult customers of Workforce Services for unpaid internships for participation hours as needed provided his employment requirements can be met with the needed placements. Wayne has an in-depth understanding of the SYEO because he participated in an original version of the JTPA program when he was younger. He hired one youth part-time after the SYEO and he understood that school and grades were more important than working when the youth's grades slipped. He briefs all youth placements that he is more than willing to look at offering them a part-time position at Sutherland's if they show him that they are hard workers, dependable, and can be motivated to excel above and beyond the minimum requirements asked of them from the SYEO/Paid internships.

DOMINOS: James and Lucinda offered and had four successful SYEO (Summer Youth Employment Opportunity) placements for the summer of 2005 and hired three of the youth part-time after completion of the SYEO. They have agreed to and placed three SYEO placements for the summer of 2006 and have offered to place one to two more youth if needed. James has requested information on contacting the Moab youth provider to discuss possible SYEO placements in his store in Moab due to the success of the SYEO in Price.

there are many volunteer opportunities for community members.

Eli says the ideal he strives for can be summed up with a quote he received from his current caseworker, "I'm not the product of my past but the sum of the choices that I make."

"This is what I know. This is what was given to me. These are the choices I choose to make," he said. "If we can have a stronger role in the community and have the community actually listen, we can be a liaison between the community and individuals in the community...We need the outreach of people that want to help."

High School Seniors Flunk Financial Exam

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- 78 percent of the students believed that a savings account or a U.S. savings bond would yield the highest growth over 18 years of saving for their children's education. Only 19 percent said stocks would offer the best growth.

- One-third of the students believed that retirement income paid by a company was called Social Security. Another one-third knew it was called a pension.

- Adapted from CNNfyi.com

If you think education is expensive,
try ignorance

- Derek Bok



The State Youth Council meets as part of the State Council on a quarterly basis. The next meeting will be the Council of Councils held in January 2007



Contact Information

If you have suggestions or comments for the newsletter, please contact Julie Lay at jlay@utah.gov. If you have questions regarding the State Youth Council, please contact Jane Broadhead at jbroadh@utah.gov or go to our Web page at jobs.utah.gov and select State Council/State Youth Council.

If you have questions regarding youth services or youth programs, please contact the Youth Specialist in your area:

Northern: Julie Anderson, julieanderson@utah.gov
Mountainland: Wendy Hughes, whughes@utah.gov
Central: Rod Barlow, rbarlow@utah.gov

Western: Ann Barnson, abarso@utah.gov
Eastern: Tami Huntington, thunting@utah.gov

If you have questions regarding Regional Youth Councils in your area or your Regional Council, please contact the Regional Council Coordinator in your area:

Northern: Susan Wright, susanwright@utah.gov
Mountainland: Julie Lay, jlay@utah.gov
Central: Diane Lovell, dianelovell@utah.gov
Eastern: Bob Gilbert, bobgilbert@utah.gov
Western: Kathleen Johnson, kathjohn@utah.gov

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